

The Lemon Grove REVIEW



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If he can't fish, Bochtler'll take East County

by Joe Naiman

Most Padres aren't from San Diego and in the era of free agency, most out-of-town-ers aren't going to invest in California real estate. Still, you might spot Padres pitcher Doug Bochtler and catcher Brian Johnson banging around East County as they operate from their current home on Mount Helix.

The house is owned by San Diego native Eddie Williams, whose major league career includes tenure with the Padres in 1990, 1994 and 1995. The Padres' acquisition of first baseman Wally Joyner in the off-season made Williams expendable, and the Detroit Tigers picked up Williams as a free agent.

So during the baseball season, Bochtler and Johnson are living in Williams' house.

Until the Padres' fateful homestand in early June, Doug Bochtler had the lowest earned run average (ERA) among Padres pitchers. In his first 17 games he allowed only two earned runs in 20 innings, equating to an ERA of 0.90. He finished eight of those 17 games, earning three saves, and struck out 20 batters in those 20 innings while limiting opponents to a batting average of .203.

Bochtler struggled during the ensuing homestand in which Maxwell's Silver Hammer came down on the Padres' head, but 1996 has still been an improvement over last year, his first in the majors.

"It's a lot better having got my feet wet last year," he noted. The 6'3", 200 lb. Bochtler entered 1996 with 96 days of Major League service.

Bochtler, the youngest of three children, had a brother who played college football at the University of Maine, but Bochtler played solely baseball in high school in West Palm Beach, Fla. He has been exclusively a pitcher since high school.

"I couldn't hit," he said.

His brother was one of Bochtler's biggest influences. "He was a great athlete. He helped me a lot," noted Doug.

Bochtler attended Indian River Junior College in Fort Pierce, Fla., before being selected by the Montreal Expos in the ninth round of the 1989 amateur draft. In his third minor league season he was fortunate enough to be assigned to the Expos' farm club in his hometown of West Palm Beach, where he compiled a 12-9 won-loss record



Padres pitcher Doug Bochtler is currently living in La Mesa.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger

and a 2.92 ERA for the 1991 season. His 1992 statistics at Harrisburg were also respectable before an elbow injury ended his season June 17; in 72 innings he struck out 89 batters and had a 2.32 ERA to go with a 6-5 won-loss record.

Bochtler was left unprotected in the November 1992 expansion draft, and the Colorado Rockies made him their 16th pick. He started 1993 with the Rockies' top farm club in Colorado Springs but struggled and was sent to the Rockies' Central Valley farm club in the California League. (The Rockies had no Class AA affiliate in 1993, thus resulting in Bochtler's demotion from Class AAA to Class A.)

Bochtler, who had a 1-4 record with Colorado Springs, had a 3-1 record with Central Valley and was recalled to Colorado Springs on July 18. On July 26 the Padres traded pitchers Greg Harris and Bruce Hurst to Colorado for catcher Brad Ausmus and pitchers Andy Ashby and Bochtler.

"I was kind of surprised that they got rid of Brad, Andy, and myself for the guys they got," said Bochtler of being traded from the Rockies. "It was more of a shock than anything else."

Ausmus and Ashby immediately reported to San Diego. Bochtler was sent to Las Vegas, where he struggled to

an 0-5 won-loss record for the remainder of 1993. Bochtler also spent 1994 with Las Vegas, compiling a 3-7 won-loss record and 86 strikeouts in 100 1/3 innings pitched, along with an ERA of 5.20.

Bochtler was converted from a starter to a reliever for the 1995 season, which he started in Las Vegas. On May 5, 1995, Bochtler made his Major League debut against the San Francisco Giants.

Bochtler appeared in 34 games for the Padres in 1995, pitching 45 1/3 innings and allowing 38 hits and 19 walks while striking out 45 batters. His won-loss record was 4-4 with one save, and his ERA was 3.57.

During the 1995 Padres' season Bochtler inherited 32 opposing baserunners. Only 7 of those runners, or 21.9 percent, scored against Bochtler,

giving him the fifth best performance in that category among National League relievers.

"You make your pitches, you get the guys out," noted Bochtler. "If you don't they hit it."

Bochtler said that being at the top level was his favorite part of playing in the majors. "Just knowing that you've excelled to the highest level of your particular sport," he said.

Bochtler also drew a few laughs from the Padres' fans during last year's between-innings entertainment in which three Padres players offer their selections of music to be played during an ensuing break and the fans select their favorite song from among the three. Bochtler's pre-recorded message campaigned for a song "from my future wife, Faith Hill."

Faith Hill is currently rumored to be dating country singer Tim McGraw, the son of former National League relief pitcher Tug McGraw, but Bochtler has never actually dated Faith Hill.

"I just liked her. I thought she was beautiful," Bochtler explained. "Kind of a joke. Used to have a picture of her on my locker."

Bochtler, who turns 26 on July 5, is engaged to a teacher he met through his mother. The two will be married in Florida in November.

When Bochtler's baseball career is over, he hopes to open up a bait and tackle shop "and fish for the rest of my life." Bochtler fishes in Florida's Lake Okeechobee during the off-season but hasn't been to any of the local lakes. "I don't get a lot of opportunity during the season. It's kind of busy."

Although Bochtler still lives in Florida during the off-season, he likes living in La Mesa. "It's nice," he said. "It's a nice area. Convenient. It's pretty close to the field. You hop on the freeway and get here."

Local teens receive Padre scholarships

by Greg Eichelberger

Five very lucky East County junior high students, including Palm Middle School's Mary Grace Fulinara, and Brenne King, will get a real shot at eventually attending college as members of the 1996 San Diego Padre Scholars program.

Fulinara and King, both 13, joined Bryan Cook of Lakeside, Jerusalem Abraha and John Castillo of La Mesa and 20 other seventh-graders from around the county to receive \$5,000 (plus accrued interest) scholarships at a special on-field ceremony last week before the Padres played the Cincinnati Reds.

Gathered on the turn with-in the massive surroundings of Jack Murphy Stadium, the pupils were praised and given short talks by club owners John Moores and Larry Lucchino, Vice president of Public Affairs Charles Steinberg, Advancement Via Individual determination (AVID) Director Mary Catherine Swanson and star Padre right-fielder, Tony Gwynn, among others.

The scholarship program, begun last year, provides funds for public middle school students who show academic promise, but lack the belief and/or financial ability to attend a university.

The program is funded by the Padre players and is matched, dollar-for-dollar by the owners.

"When I went to school, a thousand years ago," joked Moores, "I found out how hard it could be. There were times when I thought I would never go to college. With this scholarship, I hope each one of you can look forward to a bright Steinberg then told the crowd, which included last year's

Continued on Page 3

Welcome to Tuesday's Sports Weekly

Last August, we started publishing newspapers on Tuesday in an effort to increase our flexibility in publishing legal notices for governmental bodies and other clients.

In the last few months, it's become clear that our readers want more news and the business community wants more options for advertising.

We also want to give the Tuesday edition its own identity, something that sets it apart from the Thursday's weekly community news format.

Voila, welcome to the *Sports Weekly*. While still an edition of the *La Mesa Forum*, the Tuesday paper will focus on sports. Because we are a weekly covering a region also covered by daily

papers, our focus will not be stats and game stories but features on interesting athletes, teams, coaches and trends.

Many of our regular correspondents are diving right into sports coverage, but we invite your news as well. Photos and stories on local athletes and teams are always welcome.

Forum Publications is pleased to support local sports. In a time when kids are often tempted to turn to darker pursuits, we want to encourage them to play and excel, to learn the critical skills of personal discipline and teamwork.

Thanks for your continued support!

County 800-Mhz system will not be on ballot

by Dave Schwab

County supervisors voted 3-2 this week to levy a \$13.74 property tax annually on unincorporated area single-family homeowners over the next several years to raise \$27 million toward an \$83 million regional emergency radio communications system.

Institution of the 800-megahertz system will put San Diego police and fire agencies on the same frequency as their counterparts in neighboring counties for the first time.

East County Supervisor Dianne Jacob and North County Supervisor Bill Horn cast dissenting votes on the tax.

The board rejected a motion by Jacob to have the regional radio tax placed before voters on the November ballot.

Jacob said it's a question of taxation without representation.

"I consistently have strongly supported a regional 800-megahertz regional communications system, it's badly needed," Jacob said. "The only issue with me is what is the best way to fund this project?"

Jacob has said that if the board ever considered taxing county residents, the measure should be put on the ballot so that people could vote on it.

"Any time the people's pockets are going to be reached into by the government, the people should have the right to vote on the issue," she said. "This project would not have been slowed down one minute by placing this on the November ballot."

The board turned down several other funding alternatives for the regional radio system, including sheriff's booking fees, drug asset forfeiture funds, a 5-percent temporary tax on utility and gas consumption in unincorporated areas, and a general obligation bond which would have required two-thirds voter approval for passage on an election ballot.

Jon Christensen, county senior budget analyst, said the 800-megahertz frequency will improve reception for the public safety radio system.

"There's a lot of interference now," Christensen said. "Going to the 800-megahertz system will be like having an AM radio, and then listening to FM stations. The 800 system will cut out the static."

Conversion to the new emergency radio system is much more than changing frequencies, added Christensen. The changeover also would include installation of a new mobile data system accessing a whole series of databases, and creation of a \$9.3 million regional communications center to be located at the County Operations Center in Kearny Mesa.

The board's decision not to place the radio communications tax on the ballot could be annulled by The Right to Vote on Taxes state ballot initiative, which, if passed, would require all special taxes, including benefit assessments and parcel charges collected through County Service Areas (CSAs), to receive a two-thirds majority vote in an election.

The Lemon Grove Review

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Steven Saint, Publisher

Assistants to the publisher:
Jeff Paris, Marv Rosen,
Trudy Thomas
Contributing writers: Lora Clark,
Phillip Giannangeli, Cynthia O'Neill,
Howard Owens, Dave Schwab, Paul
Treske, Betty Jo Tucker

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All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance.

Send all correspondence to: Forum Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Grossmont Union High School District will receive bids for

SERVICE AND
MAINTENANCE OF VIDEO
EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS
DISTRICTWIDE

Each bid shall be submitted on a form obtained at the Purchasing Department of said District, located at 1100 Murray Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020-5664 (mailing address: P.O. Box 1043, La Mesa, CA 91944-1043), shall be sealed and filed in said Purchasing Department on or before 2:00 p.m. on

June 26, 1996

and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place.

The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications. The Grossmont Union High School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids to accept or reject any one or more items of a bid or to waive any irregularities or informalities in the bids or in the bidding.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of thirty (30) days after the date set for the opening of bids.

In the event of identical bids, the Governing Board may determine by lot which bid shall be accepted per Public Contract Code 20117.

Maynard Olsen
Clerk of the Governing Board
Grossmont Union High School District

BID #2653

Lemon Grove Review
June 11 & 18, 1996

SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 5.20.361 TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE

ORDINANCE NO. 252

On June 4, 1996, the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, adopted Ordinance No. 252 pursuant to the

urgency provisions of Section 65858 of the California Government Code. Ordinance No. 252 sets time limits for the approval or denial of entertainment permits.

This summary is published pursuant to Section 36933(c)(1) of the California Government Code.

Voting for: Sessom, Clabby,
Lake, Shelley,
Jandura
Voting against: None

The full text of said Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk at 3232 Main Street, Lemon Grove, California, 91945

CHRISTINE TAUB
FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY
CLERK

Lemon Grove Review
June 18, 1996

SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE

ORDINANCE NO. 253

On June 4, 1996, the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, adopted Ordinance No. 253 pursuant to the urgency provisions of Section 65858 of the California Government Code. Ordinance No. 253 relates to commercial advertising that would be offensive to public morals.

This summary is published pursuant to Section 36933(c)(1) of the California Government Code.

Voting for: Sessom, Clabby,
Lake, Shelley,
Jandura
Voting against: None

The full text of said Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk at 3232 Main Street, Lemon Grove, California, 91945

CHRISTINE TAUB
FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY
CLERK

Lemon Grove Review
June 18, 1996


Member
Lemon Grove
Chamber of
Commerce



THE CITY OF LEMON GROVE SAVES TAX-PAYERS MONEY BY PUBLISHING LEGAL NOTICES IN THE LEMON GROVE REVIEW



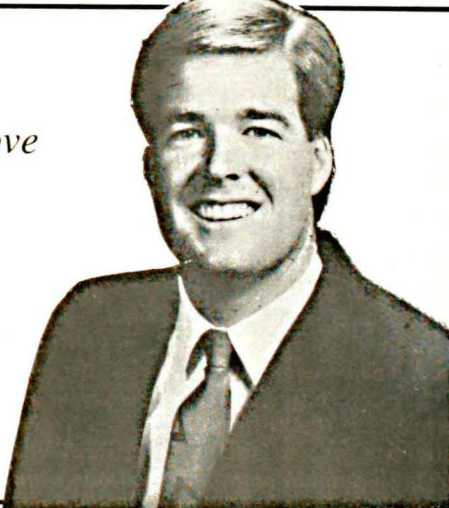
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recipients, and dozens of proud parents and family members, that the new winners, in addition to being proud of their own achievements, should stand and give the Padre organization a big hand for the club's help in furthering their education.

The group applauded their benefactors heartily.

Later that evening, they joined the team along the right field foul line for opening ceremonies, which included individual introductions and the "Star-Spangled Banner" in front of over 40,000 fans.

"I didn't know anything about the Padres," admitted Fulinara, a student with a 4.0 GPA and ambitions to be a pediatrician, "or baseball, for that matter. But now I do."

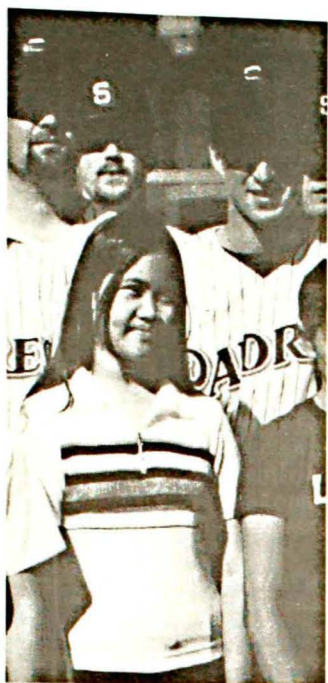
She enjoys helping children and would like to follow the example of her parents, Julita and Romeo, and her own pediatrician, Dr. Agnes Ogena.

King also maintains a 4.0 grade point average, and her goal is to become a computer engineer and would like to design layout for architects and construction workers. She is thankful that her mother, Cubie, does not always give her what she wants, instead teaching her to work hard to achieve her goals.

She enjoys making book-marks, cards and other crafts utilizing her own designs and knows that if she applies herself, she can do or become anything she wants.

To qualify for this honor, the students must be a seventh grade AVID pupil, be a U.S. citizen, and be of strong character, citizenship and academic achievement, and write an essay administered by the San Diego County Office of Education. They must also maintain this high standard throughout their school years and later be accepted into a four-year university.

In addition, they must sign a contract stating their goals of getting good grades, and avoiding drugs, crime and gangs. If they breach any provision, they will be disqualified from the program and asked to



Mary Grace Fulinara (left) and Brenee King pose with the Padres.



Photos by Greg Eichelberger

forfeit the funds.

"Things were different when I went to school," said Gwynn after the ceremony. "If I had known that I would have had this kind of money available to me, I might have taken school a bit more seriously. Not that I'm not happy about where I am, but it was tough sometimes."

"Now these kids have a goal to shoot for, and it will certainly help them in the long run, as long as they stick with it."

Five thousand dollars, however, is a pretty good incentive."

Along with the funds, the 25 students will have access to Padre games, award banquets, tours and other events throughout the year.

For more information on the scholarship program, please contact the Padres Community relations Department at 584-7290. Those desiring details on the AVID program, call 292-3559.

County supports family services

by Dave Schwab

County supervisors granted permanent status last week to the Intensive Family Preservation Program, a pilot project providing in-home support services for dysfunctional families.

The board also voted to add more personnel to the county-wide family program, which delivers enhanced social services by skilled professionals to client families in their homes.

The Intensive Family Preservation Program pilot project was begun in San Diego about four years ago.

The pilot program's origin goes back to the late 1980s, when it was recognized that children removed from homes were not being returned within the six to 18 months anticipated, and that foster-care costs were rising. The pilot project was subsequently set up to provide a more intensive level of service to keep troubled families together, or return children separated from home sooner, thus saving foster-care costs.

East County has gotten a lot of attention from the family preservation program, said Mary Anne Johnson, County Department of Social Services administrator.

"The East County region does give us a lot of referrals," acknowledged Johnson. "We serve quite a few families in East County. Now we will be able to provide more services to them."

Johnson said the family preservation program's aim is to patch up the broken home in its natural setting, thus avoiding complications and costs associated with splitting families up and transferring children to foster care or institutions.

Johnson said as many as 90 percent of families who lose children to foster care have drug-abusing parents. Drug counseling is therefore a prime target area for program intervention.

Intensive Family Preservation Program "units" consist of a team of four or five social workers, a public health nurse or a probation officer, a protective services assistant, a supervisor and a clerk who work separately to deliver in-home services to clients.

Commentary

Marge Schott's crimes are baseball's least

by Greg Eichelberger

In the book, *Animal Farm*, George Orwell attested, "All animals are created equal, but some animals are more equal than others." I'd like to amend that slightly and apply it to the recent hubbub over Cincinnati Reds' owner Marge Schott.

All speech is free, but some kinds of speech are freer than others.

Last week, Schott, president and chief executive officer of the Ohio ball club, agreed to relinquish day-to-day operations of her organization through the 1998 season.

The party line, coming out of "Acting" (and that's no exaggeration) Commissioner Bud Selig's office, is that it was done to "protect the integrity of the game." But any thinking person knows the real story here.

It does not take Warner von Braun to realize that Schott, in addition to being woefully tactless and extremely undiplomatic, is also a victim of one of the greatest feeding frenzies in modern times.

Several years ago, she was indeed caught saying derogatory things about minorities, and subsequently apologized. However, in today's sick, stifling, politically correct environment, any criticism or disagreement with a minority automatically brands a person a "racist," a "bigot," a "Nazi," or worse. But I intentionally digress ...

In May, an ambushing (and totally unprofessional) reporter at ESPN asked her a question about Adolf Hitler, which she responded in the worst possible way — she gave her honest opinion.

"He started out okay," she uttered. "But he became a nut later on."

Well, after that, all rhetorical Hell broke loose.

Didn't she know that in these dark times, no one is allowed to express such a sentiment? Hitler remains this planet's greatest boogie man. His horrible image is what many continue to hold up as the worst examples of mass murder and methodical genocide ever imposed on mankind.

Never mind Stalin's "Blood Purges," the Turks near-annihilation of the Armenians, Chairman Mao's rape of Nepal and Tibet, or the killing fields of Cambodia. Those can be excused. But bring up even one, and I reiterate one slightly positive aspect of Hitler, and the whole world comes crashing down on you.

So, when Schott, who was evidently too stupid to lie, said one measly thing in his favor, the cross was constructed, the nails purchased and the blood was smelled by all.

Even so-called liberals called for her head. Local self-proclaimed and self-righteous defenders of the Constitution, who never met a foul word they didn't like, bellowed that she should be exorcised.

Overblown sports talk shows hosts, filled with their

own gargantuan egos and stuffed like Cornish game hens with their own importance, (KFMB's Ted Leitner, Kevin Curran and Hank Bauer, and XTRA's Lee "Hacksaw" Hamilton and Jim Rome, to name a few) cried for her to be removed from the game.

Hamilton, for whom I have no respect anyway, berated callers as "idiots" for coming to her defense. So much for fair play and professionalism. I guess some offenses are just not able to be defended.

"This is not a First Amendment issue!" became the sports talk gods' war cry. "This is to preserve the best interests of the game!"

Best interests of the game?! Let's see to what "interests" these babblers-for-hire are referring.

Does drug addict and pusher Steve Howe, whose lifetime suspensions number more than Larry King's ex-wives, reflect those interests?

Does tax-dodger and domestic-abuser Daryl Strawberry, who once said that he hopes "all of Los Angeles would burn to the ground" during the 1992 riots, reflect such interests?

And what of the psychotic, deranged Albert Belle, who throws balls at fans and photographers, curses reporters and tries to drive over kids on Halloween? Is he in the "best interest of the game"?

Are these acts, some of which caused others bodily harm, really worse than Schott's lack of decorum?

And how about an example even closer to home. What about Tom Warner, who, without batting an eye, drove the Padres into the ground deeper than John Henry drove railroad spikes. Not to mention his worst offense of all, allowing Rosanne Barr to slaughter our national anthem. Does he reflect those wonderful "best interests" I keep hearing about?

Schott's crime was not that she smokes, she has a bizarre dog fetish or even that she's a woman in a man's occupation. Her crime is that she had a miniscule admiration for a figure we're all supposed to hate, whether we want to or not.

I choose to believe Hitler was a horrible war criminal, murderer, hypnotic speaker and warped genius. Saying the last two things should not brand me a member of the Third Reich, or cause me to be ostracized.

Acting upon many of his beliefs should.

Baseball has many more problems to work out besides Marge's big mouth, such as appointing a new commissioner, adopting a collective bargaining agreement, lowering ticket prices and repairing its tattered image as a sport populated by overpaid crybabies and money-grubbing owners.

Until these things are rectified, all of the Band-aid solutions and Marge Schott suspensions in the world are going to help.

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